



STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

The symbols of American freedom are familiar to all who live in the land of the free. The Stars and Stripes, the Statue of Liberty, and the Liberty Bell represent the strength and persistence of our founding principles of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. As we hold these principles dear, we must recognize the pain of sacrifice and the sting of loss felt by many Americans in defense of our country's values. While many brave Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and Guardsmen have returned home, many remain lost.

The "Missing Man" table symbolizes those who have not returned home. Every item featured represents a facet of a life forever altered in the defense of liberty. The white tablecloth represents the purity of the missing's answer to the call of duty, the single red rose reminds us of the loved ones still awaiting their return, and the yellow candle symbolizes the hope of a nation desperate to be reunited with those still lost. The "Missing Man" table ensures that we will never forget to honor our POWs/MIAs, who faced innumerable hardships too difficult to imagine. Yet, their service and sacrifice have ensured we may each pursue our own American Dream. We owe a debt of gratitude to those still missing, and we must ensure that their memories live on until they are able to return home.

We must also remember the tireless work of loved ones, friends, and dedicated public servants who strive for a full accounting of those we have lost, including 100 Texans still lost in Vietnam. In order to honor those still missing, we dedicate a day in September to honor the men and women who sacrificed so much in defense of the liberty we hold dear, and we remember what their sacrifice symbolizes to the people still awaiting their return.

At this time, I encourage all Texans to support the friends and families of our veterans who were Prisoners of War or remain Missing in Action. Let us join together in looking forward to the day when our mission to bring these Americans home is complete.

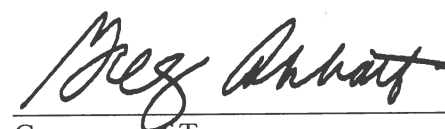
Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim
September 17, 2021, to be

POW/MIA Recognition Day



in Texas, and urge the appropriate
recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof,
I hereby affix my signature this the
16th day of September, 2021.


Governor of Texas